



# 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY REPORT

## 2000 - 2020



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# BRINGING THE WORLD TO TAMPA BAY!

## 2000 – 2020

World Partnerships has brought 5,300+ young global leaders from 194 countries to Tampa Bay under the prestigious US Department of State “International Visitor Leadership Program”.

Below, 23 journalists from 20 countries “Meet the Beatles” and Nielsen Senior Vice President Amy Rettig at Nielsen’s Global Technology and Innovation Center (Oldsmar), where they learned about Nielsen’s state of the art media measurement technology. The Center is Nielsen’s largest facility in the world, and a longtime World Partnerships IVLP partner.

**[www.worldpartnerships.org](http://www.worldpartnerships.org)**





November 2020

Dear Friends:

Welcome to the 20th anniversary of World Partnerships! Nearly every day for two decades, we have been “Bringing the World to Tampa Bay”. Our professional exchange programs showcase the outstanding professional and cultural wealth of the Tampa Bay community to a very select group of global young leaders and change-makers. World Partnerships connects and engages these leaders with our community, with our country, and with each other.

Wait. How does this happen?! In 2,000, World Partnerships became the exclusive Tampa Bay regional partner of the United States Department of State International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP), the “Crown Jewel” of United States diplomacy and America’s 80-year old public diplomacy and professional exchange program. US Ambassadors consider the IVLP to be the Nation’s most important foreign policy tool. Carefully selected by the US Embassy, delegates participate in the IVLP “by invitation only” from the US Ambassador. Twenty-five percent (25%) of the World’s Chiefs of States are IVLP alumni. Hundreds have become Heads of State or government, with thousands more leading government, business, education, and civil society sectors.

We started with 3 IVLP visitors in 2000. Since then, World Partnerships has hosted over 5,300 IVLP and Fulbright visitors from 194 countries. We have created a global eco-system of business and political leaders, journalists, pioneering women leaders, educators, community organizers, policy officials, environmental activists and young entrepreneurs, all engaged in creating a more open, connected world.

For 20 years, we have introduced thousands of IVLP and Fulbright visitors from every corner of the globe to thousands of Americans in Tampa Bay, shared their ideas, hopes and dreams and prepared professional training programs to help them create their own personal American experience. They come here to learn how Americans live, work, learn and play, and they leave here as friends of our community and our country.

This globe-spanning network has developed while sitting at Tampa Bay conference room tables. Interacting with our students in our schools, colleges and universities. Through face-to-face conversations about global security issues with commanders at SOCOM and CENTCOM. Exchanging innovative ideas with area entrepreneurs. Visiting a newsroom. Experiencing a solar farm. Restoring a barrier island beach. Sailing into one of our sunsets. Breaking bread around a dining room table.

Thanks to the involvement of thousands of professionals around Tampa Bay, these young leaders have brought the best of Tampa Bay back home to change their communities and countries. And they have left a part of themselves in our community through volunteer activities, continuing professional and personal ties, and becoming “ambassadors” for Tampa Bay worldwide.

By supporting World Partnerships – whether with your time, your expertise, or your sponsorships and contributions – you are empowering dynamic cross-cultural encounters that change lives and transform future generations, both here and around the world.

A Global Network on Your Doorstep? Priceless! With your support, World Partnerships can grow here, and do even more in the next 20 years. Thank you.

**Gary L. Springer, President**

**Mary Ellen Upton, Executive Director**



# 20-YEAR VALUE PROPOSITION OF WORLD PARTNERSHIPS

## Significant Local Economic Impact

- \$30 million+ total economic impact.
- \$5.6 million+ Airfares.
- 30,000 Hotel Room Nights.
- \$90,000+ annual Transportation Spending.
- \$2 million+ Food and Beverage Spending.
- Hundreds of thousands in entertainment, cultural activities & personal spending).

## 20-Year Track Record

- 5,300+ IVLP leaders.
- 194 countries.
- Selected for State's most prestigious and most sensitive programs (see next page).
- Florida's first-ever "Fulbright Visiting Scholar Enrichment Seminar" in 2014. (41 countries).
- Host of US Foreign Service Institute (USDOS) training programs for US Embassy officials.
- Host for "Police Professionalization Exchange Program for Mexico" competitively awarded by Global Ties U.S. and the US Embassy, Mexico City.
- Winning IVLP Competitor v. 85 US Communities (including Miami, Orlando, Jacksonville, and Pensacola).

## National and International Recognition

- Republic of Kosovo Ministry of Health Partnership for Breast Cancer.
- US Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.
- US Department of State Bureau of Consular Affairs.
- US Central Command (CENTCOM).
- US Special Operations Command (SOCOM).
- Graduate School USA Best Practices Partner.
- Tampa Bay Business Journal "Non-Profit Businesswoman of the Year" Finalist.

## Global Marketing Connections for Tampa Bay

- US Federal agencies and contractors (Washington, DC)
- US Embassies and Consulates (Worldwide)
- World Partnerships alumni (194 Countries)

## Worldwide Media Exposure

- 2,200+ journalists hosted in Tampa Bay.

## Thousands of Cross-Cultural Experiences

- 40,000+ professional meetings conducted in Tampa Bay – Businesses, public officials, educators & students, media and civil society leaders.
- "Journeys in Journalism" international media partner (Pinellas County Schools).
- Vo-Tech international collaboration (Pinellas Technical College).
- Educational/technical exchange partner in Kenya (St. Petersburg College).
- Global security training partner (St. Petersburg College).
- Open Partnership Education Network community global conversations partner (USF St. Petersburg).
- Former "global education" partner (Stavros Institute).
- High School and College student interns with a unique global network.



# TRUSTED, RESPECTED PARTNER OF THE US STATE DEPARTMENT

World Partnerships has brought State's highest-profile global initiatives & thousands of young leaders to engage Tampa Bay



**"IVLP Gold Star Alumni Tour 2011"**  
(First IVLP alumni invited to return to the US)

**"International Women of Courage"**  
(Annual White House/Department of State recognition for 12 women leaders)

**"100 Years | 100 Women"**  
(Secretary of State's special program to celebrate the centennial of "International Women's Day")

**Israel/Palestinian Authority "Peace Partners"**  
(Special project series for Israeli and Palestinian professionals)

**"Women in Public Service"**  
(Secretary of State's special program for women leaders in the public sector)

**"Edward R. Murrow Program for Journalists"**  
(State's most prestigious journalism exchange annual project)

**"Breast Cancer Awareness"**  
(A special project of the First Lady and Secretary of State during the Bush administration)

**"I-Vote"**  
(Special program on US elections for elected officials)

**Republican National Convention Election Projects**  
(2012 event in Tampa, Florida)

**"Trade Along the New Silk Road"**  
(Special project series for South & Central Asia)

**"Towards a More Safe and Secure World"**  
(Annual 80+ Global Security, Law Enforcement, Judicial officials)

**"Global Threat Cooperation"**  
(Annual 100+ Counter-terrorism, Intelligence, Military and Law Enforcement officials annually)

**"Hidden No More – Empowering Women Leaders in STEM"**  
(Annual special project series for women in STEM policy and education)

**"Correspondents Exchange Network"**  
(IVLP Murrow Journalist/Student Initiative with Eckerd College)

**21 st Century Change-Makers: Trend Leaders in Social Media Discernment**  
(Non-media academics, researchers & social media influencers from Central Europe, Turkey and Mongolia)

**"Women's Economic Empowerment"**  
(South Korean Entrepreneurs, in collaboration with Embarc Collective)



# THE WORLD AT YOUR DOORSTEP EVERY DAY

World Partnerships has created thousands of global encounters in our community. Every interaction between our IVLP visitors and our community is a cross-cultural education. IVLP groups meet businesses, public officials, educators & students, our media and civil society leaders. They meet our children and our grandchildren. The IVLP exchange is an unfiltered opportunity to see how Americans live, work, learn and play. This is not a one-way interchange; our IVLP visitors bring their cultures directly to our communities – their histories, arts, cuisines, and their hopes and dreams.

Here are some of their stories...

## Changing Lives

Programs that Teach and Inspire in Tampa Bay

In celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Belarus visitors Hana Harshakova and her dance partner Ihar Kisialiou, World Wheelchair Ballroom Dance champions, meet with and teach a Master Class for differently-abled youth and adults at the USF School of Theater and Dance. The April 2015 event was organized by a USF dance instructor and inventor of a new specialized dance performance wheelchair! The Belarus team returned to USF in 2015 and 2016 to

headline “Very Special Arts” performances for the Tampa Bay community. Another member of the Belarus delegation, a visually-impaired NGO leader visited Freedom Scientific, a Tampa Bay software developer who helped him “see” the Internet for the first time in 2001. Southeastern Guide Dogs and Creative Clay also welcomed the Belarussians. The group had dinner with Romy Camargo, a decorated US Special Forces wounded veteran who, with his wife Gaby, founded “Stay In Step” rehabilitation center in Tampa for individuals with quadriplegic injuries similar to his own.





## Sharing Knowledge, Saving Lives

Kosovo – Moffitt Cancer Center  
Collaboration

Bringing together a cancer surgeon in Kosovo with the Moffitt Cancer Center to create an ongoing professional collaboration that “saves lives.” After a 2008 IVLP visit by Dr. Elvis Ahmedi, a cancer surgeon from Kosovo, World Partnerships brought the Moffitt Cancer Center together with cancer surgeons in Kosovo. This collaboration, which began in October 2009 focused exclusively on breast cancer, and later expanded to include other types of cancer common to Kosovo. Dr. Ahmedi was named an honorary faculty member at Moffitt in 2011. As a direct outcome of this collaboration, Dr. Ahmedi formed the first official Cancer Registry for his country, and later formed and headed the Kosovo National Cancer Control Board. In 2014, World Partnerships and Moffitt were recognized by the Kosovo Minister of Health and the Control Board for their ongoing contribution to cancer healthcare in Kosovo.

## Global Connections

Kenya Missions to Tampa Bay

World Partnerships organized a series of 3 missions of elected officials and business leaders from Taita Taveta County (Kenya). The mission focused on creating partnerships in education and workforce development, sustainable tourism funding, development and marketing, and investment partners in information technology, agribusiness, energy infrastructure, and women’s empowerment. In 2018, the third mission signed a cooperative agreement for study abroad programs and distance learning with St. Petersburg College and began work on an agreement with Pinellas Technical College.

Meetings were also held with Tampa Bay Water (cooperation on water resources management); Solar Source (preparation of a renewable resource development plan); Teknia Logistics (heavy infrastructure equipment); Preserve Vision Florida (strategies for charitable giving); Healthy Start Pinellas (information sharing and technical assistance in post-natal care); and planning for a return mission from Pinellas County to Taita Taveta County. These missions were organized in collaboration with Honorable Christopher Mwambingu, Member of the Taita Taveta County Assembly. He is a World Partnerships IVLP alumnus and founding member of World Partnerships Advisors





## New Global Perspectives and Experiences

Inspiring Tampa Bay Students

For a decade, World Partnerships and “Journeys in Journalism” have teamed up for outstanding “meet the press” encounters between our IVLP journalists and Pinellas County Schools K-12 students. Students have met with, interviewed and written about their sessions with over 1,000 journalists from more than 100 countries.

Our partnership provides Pinellas students with an opportunity to learn about journalism, geography, current events, and culture face-to-face with professional journalists. Our IVLP journalists have an opportunity to teach, to talk about their profession, their countries, and their lives. For everyone involved, these encounters are transformational experiences.



A SPECIAL PROGRAM IN MULTIMEDIA STUDIES

## JOURNEYS IN JOURNALISM

Report Life.

The three-school “Journeys in Journalism” magnet program immerses students in multimedia journalism, equipping them with life skills that will serve them whatever career path they choose. Programs are located at Melrose Elementary School, John Hopkins Middle School, and Lakewood High School.





# Empowering Women Leaders Worldwide

Justice, Peace, Security, Entrepreneurs, Media and STEM

World Partnerships has brought hundreds of women leaders – scientists, educators, politicians, law enforcement, judges and community organizers, among others – to Tampa Bay from every corner of the globe.

Women STEM education leaders from Argentina, Egypt, Estonia, Malta, Paraguay, South Africa, Vietnam and Zambia came to Tampa Bay for meetings with professional counterparts and to discuss strategies to advance the achievements of women in STEM. “Hidden No More” brings to the United States 50 women from around the world who have excelled in STEM careers such as spacecraft engineering, data solutions, data privacy, and STEM- education.

Women entrepreneurs and their UNESCO specialist from Korea met with their counterparts in the Tampa Bay region for a dynamic series of discussions designed to lead to some long-term initiatives! The group met with women entrepreneurs, academics and accelerators including the Helen Gordon Davis Centre for Women and their League of Extraordinary Women, the Stavros Institute - Enterprise Village and Finance Park, and Embarc Collective.

The US Department of State’s “International Woman of Courage” from Sri Lanka talks with Tampa Bay women leaders about organizing 10,000 families seeking justice for their loved ones who were disappeared during her country’s civil war.





## Volunteerism

Giving Back to the Tampa Bay Community

World Partnerships volunteer projects focus on protecting Tampa Bay's coastal ecosystems. In these photos, Fulbright Visiting Scholars from 40 countries planted 8,000 sea oats at Fort DeSoto Park in St. Petersburg, Florida. Since 2014, IVLP groups have planted almost 20,000 sea oats, creating new erosion-fighting sand dunes at the Park, and adding nearly 1,500 volunteer hours to the Park's benefit



## Economic Education & Training

Transformative Business Skills Change Lives in Nigeria...and Beyond

World Partnerships organized a series of follow-up training sessions for Ms. Omowale Ogunrinde, an IVLP alumnus who created The Foundation for Skills Development in Nigeria devoted to training underserved women, at-risk youth, and the handicapped in small business skills. Training sessions were held at The Stavros Institute (Enterprise Village & Finance Park), Pinellas Technical College, and PARC. Her in-depth experiences in entrepreneurial skills curricula, Vo-Tech training techniques, and training programs for the handicapped, resulted in a ten-fold expansion of her training initiatives and capacity in Nigeria, and has become a resource for World Partnerships alumni on the African continent and beyond.





## Global Impact

Bringing the World to The Poynter Institute

World Partnerships has brought thousands of print, broadcast, and multimedia journalists the Tampa Bay over the past 20 years. Since 2009, World Partnerships hosted the IVLP Edward R. Murrow Program for Journalists, the State Department's most prestigious IVLP media project. World Partnerships has "internationalized" the impact of the Poynter Institute for Media



Studies through its collaboration on the IVLP. This collaboration has provided Poynter with a new global journalism network. In 20 years, over 2,200 IVLP journalists have attended Poynter training sessions, and many continue to be a part of the Poynter network. The World Partnerships-Poynter collaboration has:

- Increased direct training revenue for Poynter via US State Department honoraria
- Opened up additional opportunities for Poynter with other State Department programs
- Created new training opportunities overseas for Poynter

- Inspired "Africa Check", the continent's first online fact-checking journalism initiative modeled on "PolitiFact", founded by a World Partnerships alumnus in South Africa, and currently headed by another alumna in Kenya
- Provided new journalist members of Poynter's "International Fact-Checking Network"



## Global Dialogue

Defense Meets Diplomacy in Tampa Bay

World Partnerships has created a unique space in Tampa Bay for civilian-military dialogue and exchange of ideas. Bringing together our global civilian leaders with senior US military officials at US Central Command and US Special Operations Command is recognized by the State and Defense Departments as invaluable for open dialogues on defense, diplomacy and development. Below, then-Centcom Commander General Joseph Votel addresses 85 IVLP journalists at MacDill AFB.





## Global Security & Law Enforcement

Collaboration Across Borders



The Tampa Bay region is a “Center of Excellence” for global security and law enforcement expertise. With professional resources that include worldwide and regional US military commands, regional law enforcement fusion centers, to outstanding community policing programs, World Partnerships has successfully attracted the most important State Department IVLP security cooperation programs to Tampa Bay.

MacDill Air Force Base is headquarters for US Special Operations Command (SOCOM), US Central Command (CENTCOM), and the Joint Special Operations University (JSOU). Tampa Bay hosts a Regional Fusion Center that brings together Federal, state and local levels of law enforcement. In addition, World Partnerships works closely with the US Coast Guard, the Tampa International Airport, Port Tampa Bay, the FBI, Homeland Security, the United States Attorney, retired US ambassadors and military officers, crime labs, human trafficking experts, money laundering executives in financial institutions and all levels of law enforcement and the Courts. Our work the St. Petersburg Police Department and with St. Petersburg College’s Center for Public Safety Innovation has resulted in a new community policing training relationship with the State Department.



“Global Threat Cooperation” and “Towards a More Safe and Secure World” are two major State Department special initiatives, among many others, that have brought hundreds of global security officials to our region.

## Justice & the Rule of Law

Building a More Just World

Anchored by the Stetson University College of Law, another Center of Excellence in Tampa Bay is comprised of Federal, state and county judiciary, the home of the US Attorney for the Middle District of Florida, the state Second District Court of Appeals, and experts in anti-money laundering, counter-narcotics, trafficking in humans, Native American tribal justice, and human rights law. World Partnerships rule of law programs over the years have generated collaborations by Tampa Bay experts throughout the world.



IVLP visitors have working meetings with law professors and students in class, judges working on trials and appeals, prosecutors and defense attorneys, law enforcement counsel, and advocates at all levels of the judicial and penal systems. Above, Ms. Maria Chapa Lopez, United States Attorney for the Middle District of Florida, speaking to an IVLP group from the Western Hemisphere. Below, Dr. Luz Nagle, international law professor at Stetson University College of Law, brings together a multi-regional group of women judicial leaders with Ms. Betty Castor, former president of the University of South Florida and former chair of the Fulbright Commission for a discussion of the role of women in the justice system.





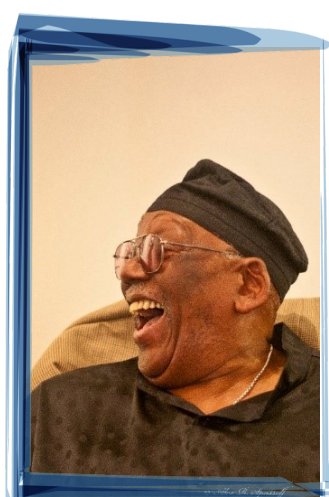
## Cultural Diplomacy:

### Celebrating America's "Jazz Ambassadors" With A New Generation

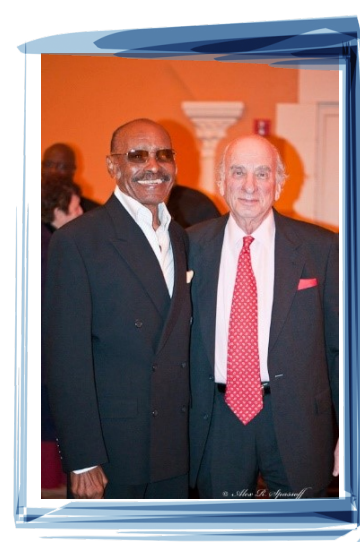
"Cultural Diplomacy" – employing the arts to promote international and inter-cultural understanding – has often helped the United States share its message abroad, sometimes at critical moments in American foreign policy. During the Cold War 1950s – 1970s, America's cultural ambassadors were the greatest jazz musicians of all time. Under a special US State Department program, the Jazz Ambassadors took "America's classical music" to millions of listeners in Eastern Europe, South and Central Asia, the African Continent, and Latin America. In many cases, this was the first time American jazz was heard in live performance behind the Iron Curtain.



In October 2010, World Partnerships brought "Jam Session: America's Jazz Ambassadors Embrace the World" – a photographic exhibit curated by Meridian International Center – to Tampa Bay. In collaboration with the Al Downing Tampa Bay Jazz Association and the St. Petersburg Museum of History, the show featured performances by Jazz Ambassadors, live "jam sessions" with Tampa Bay musicians, and a special exhibition of jazz images by renowned jazz photographer Herb Snitzer. Over 125 IVLP visitors experienced this cultural diplomacy initiative during their Tampa Bay programs.



(Above left) Randy Weston, Jazz Ambassador and legendary composer/pianist, opened the exhibition with a solo piano concert featuring many of his most renowned compositions. (Photo by Alex Spassoff). (Below right) Legendary Jazz Ambassadors Buster Cooper and Dick Hyman performed live concerts during Jam Session; (Above right) A group of Foreign Service Nationals from 25 US Embassies visited Tampa Bay as part of their educational and cultural training program. (Below left) IVLP Edward R. Murrow Program for Journalists joined in on a live jam session with local musicians.



## World Partnerships Advisors: Global Change-Makers

Our unique global think-tank of “World Partnerships Advisors” is currently 96 leaders in 72 countries, with plans to grow in 2020!

The Advisors are a representative microcosm of a unique World Partnerships network of over 5,300 exchange alumni from 194 countries. We have built and sustained this network for over 20 years. The genesis of this network is our exclusive regional partnership with the US Department of State International Visitor Leadership Program and from the Fulbright Program.

World Partnerships Advisors connects and engages the best and brightest emerging leaders into a dynamic movement, seeks innovative solutions to complex problems in their communities and their countries, and adapts them to make change across international borders. They are young, already influential in their fields, and positioned to make transformational global change for a long time to come.

The origin of this global group is right here in Tampa Bay, and its nexus is World Partnerships. Sitting around conference room tables. Interacting with students in our schools, colleges and universities. Face-to-face conversations about global security issues with commanders at SOCOM and CENTCOM. Exchanging innovative ideas with area entrepreneurs. Visiting a newsroom. Walking through a solar farm. Restoring a barrier island beach. Sailing into one of our sunsets. Breaking bread around a dining room table.

### **World Partnerships Advisors have experienced the best of Tampa Bay and returned home to change their worlds:**

- Creating the first national Cancer Control Board in Kosovo.
- Establishing the first national “blood drive” in Nepal.
- Introducing new education, training and business partnerships in Kenya.
- Job skills training for impoverished women in Nigeria.
- Inspiring Africa’s first continent-wide “fact-checking” journalist coalition.
- Empowering an Indian “Upcycling” NGO go global with product sales.
- Inspiring the writer of Mexico’s “open records” laws in the public sector.
- Creation of a patient advocacy initiative in Macedonia.
- Learning pediatric emergency room procedures to save young lives in Yemen.
- Providing tools for career education in the UAE.
- Introducing community-policing techniques in dozens of countries.
- Empowering the new generation of women leaders around the world.



## World Partnerships Advisors: Global Change-Makers

A faint, light blue world map is visible in the background, showing the outlines of continents and some connecting lines.

Afghanistan	Italy
Algeria	Kenya
Argentina	Kosovo
Armenia	Kuwait
Aruba	Kyrgyzstan
Australia	Latvia
Azerbaijan	Lebanon
Bahrain	Liberia
Bangladesh	Macedonia
Belize	Malawi
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Mauritius
Botswana	Mexico
Brazil	Morocco
Bulgaria	Nepal
Burkina Faso	Nigeria
Cambodia	Pakistan
Cameroon	Palestinian Territories
China	Paraguay
Colombia	Poland
Costa Rica	Russia
Cote d'Ivoire	Rwanda
Czech Republic	Saudi Arabia
Democratic Republic of Congo	Sierra Leone
Egypt	Serbia
Ethiopia	Seychelles
European Union	Spain
Finland	South Africa
France	Sudan
Gambia	Sri Lanka
Georgia	Tunisia
Germany	Uganda
Greece	Ukraine
Guatemala	United Kingdom
Haiti	Uruguay
India	Venezuela
Indonesia	Zimbabwe
Iraq	

## What Does the Future Look Like? Build More World Partnerships!

The COVID-19 pandemic and global economic downturn have completely disrupted the flow of our international visitors. Until such time as we can truly celebrate our 20th anniversary and actively pursue new sustainable sources of funding and revenue, we will continue doing everything we can to sustain the work of the World Partnerships.

As we find ways to work through and steer to the other side of this pandemic, there is still important work to be done in the present. For now, our work is with our global alumni helping them collaborate to answer their common question – “Where do we go from here?” How do we get through this and come out whole on the other side? What does the future look like? Our journalists are reaching out for new ways to cover all of this. Some of our alumni are doing very practical things to meet their present challenges, such as 3-D printing protective equipment and distributing it in their communities, or organizing food distribution for the elderly or infirm. Others are looking at what has happened in their world and seeking to find ways to preserve the good things – clean air, clean water, etc. – all the while thinking about new ways to live, work, learn and play.

The bonds of friendship, trust and mutual interests created by professional, educational and cultural exchange put our work at the forefront of this challenge. This is the vital work ahead for World Partnerships and its global eco-system of change-makers. We don't pretend to make American foreign policy. We make friends for our country and for our community – in the past, in the present, and in the future. We are the connective tissue of foreign policy that makes enduring impressions about Americans for the new generation of global leaders, sustains bonds of friendship, and provides continuity generation to generation.

To meet this need, World Partnerships will be a platform for this community for discussing, collaborating and disseminating these new ideas amongst their fellow IVLP leader alumni around the world. The Pandemic has created a new urgency for connecting this global community of young leaders together.

Thousands of the world's “New Generation” leaders know America through our eyes, through their experience here with all of us. And, when you welcome these young leaders into your office, into your home, into your classrooms, and into your lives, you are serving your country in a very personal, and important, way. You have changed minds, and you have warmed hearts. Because they have been here with you, they know America through you, and through their experience here with you. These are intense, emotional experiences that create a long-term bond of friendship for us, for our community, and for our country.

World Partnerships has worked for 20 years as a nexus to sustain these lasting relationships, and has invested in building and sustaining networks essential to global connectivity.

Our interaction with thousands of IVLP visitors from every corner of the globe has included introducing them to thousands of Americans, sharing their ideas, hopes and dreams and preparing professional training programs to help them create their personal American experience. We helped many forge new policy ideas, adopt new business approaches, create frameworks for regional trade, and advance their educational opportunities. Equally important, they have remained connected to us as friends and colleagues hoping to achieve enduring innovative business, education, cultural and social enterprise partnerships.



US Ambassadors call the International Visitor Leadership Program the most important public diplomacy tool they have. The magic of the IVLP exchange is that emerging global leaders have an unfiltered opportunity to see and experience how Americans live, work, learn and play. IVLP alumna Margaret Thatcher's impressions of Americans came through face-to-face meetings, through exchanging professional ideas, and through breaking bread with families. Through visiting American cities and rural communities. In her words: "I saw and felt the vitality and generosity of the American way of life, and it has left an indelible impression on my mind. Forevermore I shall be a true friend of the United States."

One reader of our 20th anniversary report describes World Partnerships as "honorable work" that "fills me with hope". Join us to continue this honorable work, and build on the hope that it brings to and the true friendships it creates with the new generation of global change-makers.

*The photo below honors the legacy of the late Ambassador Christopher Stevens and his impact on making the world a more just, secure and connected place. The photo of Stevens was taken by a World Partnerships alum from Libya who was selected for the IVLP by Ambassador Stevens.*







## FIND OUT MORE:



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World Partnerships, Inc. is a 501-c-3, not-for-profit organization (FEIN: 59-3651710) with a worldwide mission for educational, cultural, commercial and professional exchange with current and emerging global leaders.